

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 18-21 are rejected for alleged anticipation reasons in view of Tsuchida or Goto. In response, the sole independent claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the features of dependent claim 20, which has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants do not believe that the specific ratio range associated with the number of moles of the second compound and protoic dissociation group is neither taught nor suggested in the cited art even if combinable. Moreover, dependent claim 19 further defines that the second compound includes at least one of N, N-dimethyl formamide and N-methyl formamide in contrast to the cited art, where these types of compounds are solvents, such as for casting purpose (see, Goto, col. 16, lines 8-16), and thus not as a compositional component of the proton conductor as claimed.

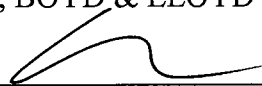
Based on at least these reasons, Applicants believe that the claimed invention is distinguished from the cited art, and thus the anticipation rejections should be withdrawn. Therefore, Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing.

Respectfully submitted,

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